(d) The gain/loss on the scheme till now and gain/loss anticipated over the entire tenure :

Loss upto 31-3-2000	Rs.	139 crore
Gain anticipated over the entire tenure (at the current interest rates)	Rs.	534 crore approximately.

Benefit of Special Duty Allowance

3875. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Special Duty allowances has been sanctioned to the Central Government civilian employees with all India transfer liability and who are posted to the N.E. region from outside that region since 1983;

(b) whether it is a fact that employees of some of the departments have been enjoying this benefit; and

(c) if so, what are the steps taken by Government to extend the same benefit to similarly placed left out Central Government employees working in the N.E. region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Civilian employees of all the Central Government Departments, who have all India transfer liability and have been transferred to the N.E. Region from outside the Region, are entitled to the Special Duty Allowance.

Package to Employees posted in Specified Region

3876. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the package of special incentives granted to employees posted in specified region of the country indicating category of officers/employees entitled for such incentives, region-wise;

(b) the list of Central, semi-Central Government Departments including Railways and PSUs which are implementing the special duty allowance in North-Eastern Region;

(c) the criteria fixed for considering an employee to have all India transfer liability to be entitled for Special Duty Allowance; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to ensure equitable, non-discriminatory and compulsory implementation of SDA by all departments and PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The main features of the package and facilities admissible to all categories of Central Government civilian employees posted in the North-Eastern Region are :—

(i) fixed tenure of posting and weightage for central deputation/training abroad and special mention in confidential records;

(ii) Special Compensatory Allowance;

(iii) Travelling Allowance on first appointment;

(iv) Liberalisation in Travelling Allowance, road mileage for transportation of personal effects on transfer, joining time with leave, Leave Travel Concession, Children Education Allowance and Hostel Subsidy in respect of children, CGHS facility for the family;

(v) Retention of Government accommodation at the last duty station;

(vi) Additional HRA; and

(vii) Retention of telephone facility at the last station of posting. In addition, the Central Government Civilian employes having an 'All India Transfer Liability' and posted in the North-Eastern Region from outside the Region, are entitled to Special (Duty) Allowance @12½% of the basic pay. This package is also applicable to the employees posted to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep Islands and Sikkim.

In case of employees posted in the Kashmir Valley, the package of incentives mainly consists of (i) Travelling Allowance for families, including transportation of personal effects; (ii) HRA at the rate of 'A' class city in case family is moved by the Government servant to a selected place; (iii) departmental arrangements for stay, security and transportation to place of work for the employees; (iv) per diem allowance for each day of attendance; (v) messing allowance or messing facility. The package is valid for specified period.

(b) to (d) No centralised information regarding grant of incentives/ allowances, including Special (Duty) Allowance, is maintained in respect of semi-Central Government Departments/PSUs. So far as Railway employees are concerned, they are entitled to SDA on the same criteria as applicable to other Central Government employees. The All India Transfer Liability for this purpose is uniformly determined by applying tests of recruitment zone, promotion zone etc., *i.e.* whether recruitment to service/cadre/post has been made on all India basis and whether promotion is also based on all India common seniority list for the service/cadre/post as a whole.

Report of the Committee set up to Examine Placement of EDP Staff

3877. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up a Committee to examine the question of placement of EDP Staff in the data processing division of National Sample Survey Organisation subsequent to the judgement delivered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court;

(b) if so, whether this said Committee report is under consideration in the Ministry of Finance; and

(c) if so, what is the time frame to implement the Committee report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The report of Committee is being examined and a decision will be taken shortly.

Credit flow to Agriculture in Gujarat

3878. SHRI AHMED PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines to the Public Sector Banks to improve credit flow to agriculture in Gujarat particularly to the tribals of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has